Beaver Creek No. 10

Grand Teton National Park Wyoming

Historic Structure Report

Prepared for National Park Service Grand Teton National Park

Prepared by
Colorado State University
Architectural Preservation Institute
Christopher Koziol, Principal Investigator



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Section 1: Study Summary and Administrative Data

The property today known as Beaver Creek #10 has played a significant role in the development of Grand Teton National Park (GRTE). The structure has changed uses and form over time. As the Stewart Ranger Station it was built by Al Austin¹ sometime prior to 1908. It bore witness to the contention and conflict during the late 1920's as the Forest Service, National Park Service, ranchers and other private land owners struggled to define both the boundaries, use, and character of the varied terrain. A photograph of the Stuart [sic] Ranger Station taken sometime before 1929² reveals two structures which, by 1929, were attached.³ (See cover.) Since that time, the structure has had at least five additions and has seen nearly as many different uses, including serving as the Park Headquarters for many years.

As one observes the building today, its varied roof framings record the development of the building as it changed with the needs of its occupants and the Park. The hip roof from the early 1900's reflects the building when it likely served as a residence for Forest Service rangers. The pre-1929 photo also shows a small freestanding gable roof structure that has since been subsumed into Beaver Creek #10. Later additions reflect the economic climate of the New Deal era during the mid-to-late 1930's when the Civilian Conservation Corps provided work for many young men who desperately needed it. As the flagship structure of Grand Teton National Park, Beaver Creek #10, Park Headquarters from 1934 to c. 1960, became the pivotal building in the administrative site plan designed by landscape architect, Keith Matson. In its life as Park Headquarters it was noted to be the "heart of Grand Teton National Park". Finally, the 1956 board and batten addition housed the rescue cache as well as more recently providing much needed office space to the Wildlife Biology Department and, most recently, the Office of Science and Resource Management.

In addition to symbolizing historic, political and economic eras, Beaver Creek #10 is a quintessential example of the Rustic style of architecture that has come to symbolize the National Park Service. The use of primarily local natural materials, hipped gables, and a strong horizontal emphasis that, in this case, counterbalances the verticality of the surrounding landscape, characterizes the work of Herbert Maier who, during the same time period, designed three museums in nearby Yellowstone National Park. As the Regional Officer for the NPS State Park Emergency Conservation Work program (CCC), his work strongly influenced the Rustic style.⁵

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¹ Daugherty, John, A Place Called Jackson Hole, (GTNP NPS, 1999), 297

² Photo obtained from the Supervisor's Office, Forest Archaeologist, Bridger-Teton NF

³ Archival photo obtained from the Cultural Resource Office of GTNP

⁴ 1990 Historic Building/Structure Survey Form

⁵ National Park Service: Architecture in the Parks, updated 2/26/2001

Beaver Creek #10 has great potential to continue to serve Grand Teton National Park. It has performed unique functions throughout its life and has, in and of itself, become an interpretive site, as it reflects the evolution of our nation's view of conservation and recreation.

As a result of the investigation performed in the course of preparing this historic structure report, we wish to note several highlights:

- This building's history of extensive change has not been previously documented in one place. Site investigation, together with archival research, has added to our understanding; and a building chronology is presented here.
- Despite multiple changes to the building over the years, the basic integrity of this building as an architectural record of changing needs remains largely intact.
- However, as many of the superficial changes that were previously made were done in the absence of an understanding of the historical significance of the structure, and with an eye toward construction expediency, there are various insensitive past interventions which may be rectified or reversed.
- Since being withdrawn from active use the building continues to suffer from both weathering and rodent inhabitation.
- With proper planning and timely implementation this building could be returned to active service, and might accommodate any of several Park facilities needs, including either office space or housing.

Conversations with Grand Teton national Park personnel identified several potential uses with two being favored: use as a residence, possibly for employees, visiting researchers, lecturers, dignitaries, etc.; and as an office/training/conference center. Other possibilities included a community center for the surrounding residential area, a visitors' center, and an interpretive site.

The information presented herein provides the basis for evaluating future alterations that may be proposed for Beaver Creek #10 and will aid in the stabilization and rehabilitation of this significant park structure. The project team has developed a thorough analysis of the structure's place within the context of Grand Teton National Park's history as well as identifying the relevance of the historical modifications from the earliest buildings to the present structural configuration.

The document defines the elements that give Beaver Creek #10 its architectural and historical character and help convey its significance. The contents of this Historic Structure Report (HSR) are:

- a concise historic context associated with the building;
- a chronology of building development including alterations and notes on maintenance;
- a re-evaluation of the period of significance, historic integrity, and historic significance of the structure;
- an evaluation of building conditions;
- a list of character-defining features;
- updated existing conditions photographs

The historical research portion of the report is based primarily on existing historical material at the Grand Teton National Park Archives and on other materials provided by NPS. Additional secondary research was conducted using materials within the libraries of The University of Wyoming and Colorado State University, Ft. Collins. The level of research requested for this report was "thorough"—one of three levels of investigation (exhaustive, thorough, and limited) as directed by NPS Director's Order #28. "Thorough" is defined by DO-28 as follows:

For historical studies this means research in selected published and documentary sources of known or presumed relevance that are readily accessible without extensive travel and that promise expeditious extraction of relevant data, interviewing all knowledgeable persons who are readily available, and presenting findings in no greater detail than required by the task directive.

Administrative Data

Historic Name: Beaver Creek Old Administration Building

Common Name: Beaver Creek No. 10 Park Structure Number: GRTE/HS-0010

Location: T43N, R116W, W2SE4SW4 and E2SW4SE4 of section 14

USGS Map #43110-F6 Moose, WY

UTM 12/521457/4836802

Cultural Resource Data

Beaver Creek No. 10 is a contributing building to the Old Administrative Area Historic District (also known as Beaver Creek Residential/Utility Area) that was listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 1990.

Section 2: Project Data

Client

National Park Service Denver Service Center P.O. Box 25287 Denver, CO 25287

Grand Teton National Park PO Drawer 170 Moose, WY 83012-0170

Consultants

Architectural Preservation Institute of Colorado State University, Fort Collins Principal Investigator, Christopher Koziol, Assistant Professor and Director

Research, field work and subsequent analysis was conducted as a part of ongoing professional education. Participating faculty included:

- Janet Ore, Associate Professor of History, Colorado State University, Fort Collins
- Robert Ogle, Associate Professor and Director. Colorado Mountain College Historic Preservation Program, Leadville, CO
- Ron Anthony, Anthony and Associates

Students responsible for research, analysis and narrative presented here were:

Kimberly Dugan, Barbara James, Christine Londos, Lorna Meidinger, David G. Stout, Andrew Weunschel

Ackowledgements

Sue Consolo-Murphy, Chief of Science and Resource Management, Grand Teton National Park

Chris Finlay, Chief of Facilities Management, GTNP

Hank Harlow, PhD, Professor of Zoology and Physiology, University of WY

Alice Hart, Museum Curator, Grand Teton National Park

Jamie Schoen, Forest Archaeologist, Supervisor's Office Bridger-Teton N.F.

Craig Struble, Director, Western Center for Historic Preservation

Bob Williams, Supervisory Preservation Woodcrafter, Western Center for Historic Preservation

Part 1: Developmental History

Section 3: Historical Background

Developmental History and Context

The historic context provided here is intended to generate a framework for understanding the historic significance of Beaver Creek No.10 by linking its history to that of the region in general and to the historically significant people, events, cultural, and economic trends of Jackson Hole and the nation in particular. The historic context of the building plays a significant role in generating recommendations for use and treatment of the structure.

Jackson Hole and the Teton Valley's Earliest Inhabitants

Although a detailed description of the extensive archaeological data is beyond the scope of this report, human occupation in the Teton Valley has occurred for approximately 11,000 years. Archaeological evidence of Paleolithic populations in the region includes stone tools and some food caches. The valley's harsh winters made permanent habitation of the area by prehistoric populations unlikely, and existing archaeological evidence suggests that early Native Americans entered the valley on a seasonal basis to hunt and obtain obsidian for tool making. Historical data gathered by Euro-American trappers in the early days of the contact period on the Shoshone, Blackfeet, Crow, Nez Perce, and other Native American tribes in the area indicate that many populations traversed the valley spring through fall, but that permanent settlements were unknown.

Euro-American Exploration and Settlement

John Colter may have been the first Euro-American to enter Jackson Hole in 1807,¹⁰ but subsequent trapping expeditions in 1811 and 1812 followed quickly in his wake.¹¹ From the 1820's through the 1840's the population of the region consisted of just a few trappers and Native American hunting parties. Of the fur trappers, several early characters helped to define the valley and the independent, frontier-minded spirit of Jackson Hole. Richard "Beaver Dick" Leigh acted as a guide for several government sponsored surveys and lived in the valley with his family through the 1870's. Two of Grand Teton National Park's Lakes are named after Richard Leigh and his wife, Jenny.

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⁶ John Daugherty, A Place Called Jackson Hole: The Historic Resource Study of Grand Teton National Park (Grand Teton National Park, National Park Service, 1999), 23.

⁷ Ibid., 27.

⁸ Ibid., 33.

⁹ David Saylor, *Jackson Hole, Wyoming: In the Shadow of the Tetons* (University of Oklahoma Press, Norman, Oklahoma, 1970).

¹⁰ Daugherty, A Place Called Jackson Hole, and Saylor, Jackson Hole, Wyoming.

¹¹ Daugherty, A Place Called Jackson Hole, 43.

Another significant character, William Stewart, although perhaps not the most notable of the early fur-trappers, was an independently wealthy Scotsman and a decorated veteran of Waterloo who earned quite a reputation for both his foppery and his bravery. Stewart came to the Jackson Hole region in the 1830's and became one of the members of the small "trapping fraternity" that arose in the region in the early 1800's. Their frontiersman spirit continues to permeate the valley where self-reliance and hardiness remain valued traits. Although there is a dearth of information regarding the naming of the Stewart Ranger Station, it may be that the Forest Service named the station after the daring Scotsman.

Following the decline of the fur trade in the late 1840's, the land remained "relatively unoccupied" until the 1860's, when Pacific Railroad Surveyors and prospectors began to enter the valley. Military and government funded scientific expeditions also began to occur with increasing regularity in the 1860's and 1870's. The Hayden Surveys of 1871-1872 and 1878 were among the most notable, in addition to the Doane expedition of 1876, which was exceptional primarily for its nearly disastrous consequences. It wasn't until the 1880's and 1890's, however, that permanent settlers began to arrive in the Jackson Hole region.

The first permanent settlers to Jackson Hole included John Holland and John Carnes, who homesteaded in 1884.¹⁶ The year 1889 brought Mormon families into this rough region, and they began to create irrigation canals, farmland, as well as a demand for schools, law enforcement and other community services.¹⁷ By the 1890's, the small population of the valley had doubled, and the town of Jackson Hole had been surveyed.¹⁸

Near the turn of the century, Jackson Hole and the surrounding area experienced a population boom. By the 1900 census, there were over 600 inhabitants in the region. The federal government's land policies in the west began to change following the first few years of the new century, however. The rise of the Conservation movement and new federal bureaus such as the Forest Service, created in 1905, began regulating land and timber reserves and altered the free-for-all atmosphere that had persevered for decades in the Teton Valley.¹⁹

The Arrival of the Forest Service

A growing conservation movement near the end of the nineteenth century pushed for the passage of a bill in 1891 designed to stop the fraudulent

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Robert B.Betts, Along the Ramparts of the Tetons: The Saga of Jackson Hole, Wyoming . (Colorado Associated University Press, Boulder, Colorado, 1978), 83.

¹³ Saylor, *Jackson Hole, Wyoming*, 79-100.

¹⁴ Daugherty, A Place Called Jackson Hole, 71.

¹⁵ Saylor, Jackson Hole, Wyoming, 113.

¹⁶ Daugherty, A Place Called Jackson Hole, 91.

¹⁷ Ibid., 92.

¹⁸ Ibid.

¹⁹ Ibid., 109.

acquisition of federal lands. The bill also contained a rider giving the President the right to take land from the public domain and establish forest reserves. President Benjamin Harrison created the country's first reserve, the Yellowstone Park Timberland Reserve of 1.2 million acres, ²⁰ just to the north of the Jackson Hole area. The management of the newly created forest reserves was mired in bureaucracy, however, and so, in 1897, the Organic Act, governing forest reserves, was passed. It contained three specified purposes for the forest reserves as defined by Congress: forest protection, watershed protection, and timber production. Also in 1897, President Grover Cleveland established the Teton Forest Reserve, which included most of the land that has become today's Grand Teton National Park. ²²

President Theodore Roosevelt moved the forest reserves from the Department of the Interior to the Department of Agriculture under Gifford Pinchot's Bureau of Forestry in 1905. Pinchot renamed the agency the "Forest Service" and the forest reserves became known as national forests. The Forest Service's holdings in the Jackson Hole area were expanded in 1908 with the creation of Teton National Forest. The tenants of the Forest Service, to preserve multiple uses, to provide sustained yield, and to act with concern for future and local interests, meant that Forest Service rangers in Jackson Hole understood the economic concerns of the community and acted in ways to preserve local public relations. Preserve Iocal public relations.

Changing Tides: The Park Service

In 1916 the National Park Service Act passed Congress. The goal of the National Park Service differed ideologically from the Forest Service's long-established goals. The values that dominated the Forest Service at this time were "a combination of individualist spirit and progressive ethos, part of nineteenth-century America and equally of the regulatory world that succeeded it". The National Park Service, in contrast, was a creation of the Twentieth Century that sought to sell "Americans leisure and grandeur at a time" after World War I when the outdoors became a symbol of American values and physical strength. The Park Service also appealed to a national constituency rather than local interests, and Mather and other early directors used national marketing campaigns to help spread the Park Service's message. ²⁸

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²⁰ United States Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, *Dawning of a New Era* (United States Department of Agriculture, Forest Service Publication 2001), 13.

²² Robert W. Righter, *Crucible for Conservation: The Struggle for Grand Teton National Park* (Grand Teton Natural History Association, Moose, Wyoming, 1982, reprinted in 2000), 20. ²³ Harold K. Steen, *The U.S. Forest Service: A History* (University of Washington Press, Seattle, 1976), 71

²⁴ Steen, The U.S. Forest Service, 13, and USDAFS, Dawning of a New Era, 75.

²⁵ Righter, Crucible for Conservation, 21.

²⁶ Hal K.Rothman, "A Regular Ding-Dong Fight": The Dynamics of Park Service-Forest Service Controversy During the 1920s and 1930s. In *American Forests: Nature, Culture, and Politics*, edited by Char Miller (University Press of Kansas, Lawrence 1997), 112.

²⁷ Ibid., 114.

²⁸ Ibid., 113.

The first National Park Director, Stephen Mather, and his assistant, Horace Albright, sought to get the Teton area included in an expansion of Yellowstone National Park. Despite repeated propositions for such, an annexation from 1882 into the twentieth century, there was little consensus for the idea. ²⁹ Mather and Albright nearly succeeded in 1919, but quiet opposition from the Forest Service, along with local ranchers was enough to kill the bill, ³⁰ and efforts to re-ignite support failed until 1929, when President Coolidge signed the bill that established Grand Teton National Park.

Shortly after the passage of the bill creating Grand Teton National Park, the Forest Service transferred several of its ranger stations and other buildings to Park Service control. The Forest Service's Stewart Ranger Station, built before 1908 by Forest Ranger Al Austin, became the National Park Service's Headquarters, then Administration Building, then Beaver Creek #10. Over the decades a series of additions and alterations were undertaken, including two wings built by the CCC between 1938 and 1940, and a rear addition added in 1956 to fulfill the demand for administrative space that was fueled by the expansion of the park in 1950. Beaver Creek #10 remained the administrative center of the park until 1958. Because of the building's long history as the oldest administrative structure within the park and its service through many years of park controversy, Beaver Creek #10 is historically significant and contributes greatly to the historic fabric of Grand Teton National Park.

²⁹ Righter, Crucible for Conservation, 23.

³² Ibid., 318.

³⁰ Ibid.. 28.

³¹ Daugherty, A Place Called Jackson Hole, 297.

Section 4: Chronology of Development and Use

This section summarizes the physical construction, modification, and use of Beaver Creek #10. The information presented is based on historical documentation with corroboration from first-hand observation and limited materials analysis.

The current structure known as Beaver Creek #10 was originally the Stewart Ranger Station and was constructed before 1908. It was owned and operated by the United States Forest Service as a ranger station, was comprised of two separate buildings (see Figure 1) that were joined together by 1929. A woodshed was added to the center of the north rear side.

When the Grand Teton National Park acquired the land, the building became known as the Beaver Creek Ranger Station by the 1920s. In the mid-late 1930's the CCC constructed wings on the east and west side and possibly added another addition onto the northwest side of the original hip-roofed building. However, the northwest addition does not correspond in character to the CCC wing additions from that period, suggesting that the addition may have been a separate building which was altered to fit around the woodshed, or was constructed independently of the two additions at that time.

From 1939 to 1956 the footprint of the building remained essentially the same. The roofline, however, was altered when a gable roof was added over the two north additions and the woodshed. This allowed the woodshed to be converted to a restroom. The additional newly roofed space gained just north of the woodshed was floored, closed in and used as a darkroom. This created a "T" shape footprint to the entire structure.

In 1956 a new addition was added to the northwest corner of the building. Also the large gable roof that covered the two previous northern additions was removed, and the two earlier northern gable roofs were altered to allow a new shed roof to cover the whole north side including the new addition. This is how the building remains today. The 1989 National Historic District nomination designates the ranger station as Beaver Creek #10.

Periods of Significance and Detailed Alterations

c.1908 - 1928

Forest Ranger Al Austin had built the Stewart Ranger Station by 1908³³. An early photograph of the station shows the site with two separately located buildings³⁴. In this photograph the southwest building has a hipped roof, and the northeast building has a gable roof with the front (south facing) gable overhang featuring an attached flagpole.

³³ Daugherty, A Place Called Jackson Hole, 297.

³⁴ Photo number 150307, of "Stuart {sic} Ranger Station Teton N.F.," Supervisor's Office, Bridger-Teton National NF Ranger Station, Jackson, WY.



Figure 1 Stewart Ranger Station - between 1908-1928

The flagpole suggests that this building is the actual ranger station rather than the hipped roof structure. Investigation of the photograph roughly confirms the identity of the two buildings as follows:

The NE gable roofed building has a central doorway under the gable, and one window centered on the east side (a shadow/scar under the window appears to coincide with the cutaway log in the current structure). The number of logs, as well as their size and shape, are consistent with the present structure. Also, the square cut corner joints are similar. Lastly, there are no distinguishable differences which could rule out that the current building attachment is the single NE, gabled building in the picture.

The SW hipped roof structure has similar features to the present structure including log counts, joinery, location of the entry door, and the location of the window to the west of the door. The current hipped gable roof building retains the original hipped roof framing under the current additions. (see Figure 2)



Figure 2 Roof framing showing hipped configuration

According to the 1978 NPS Classified Structure Field Inventory Report there were two sets of maintenance records for the building which was then the biology office. One of the records sets the original construction date as 1920; the other cites the construction date as unknown. The primary reference (the maintenance files) could not be located for this report. Additionally and most importantly, the report reveals that Superintendent Kerr related that Building #10 was extant when the park was established in 1929.

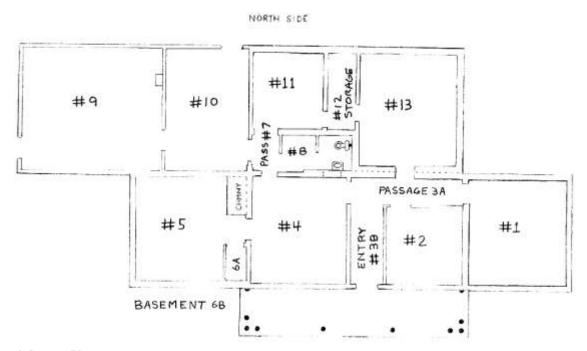


Figure 3 Current Plan

In the period between the original construction and 1929, the gabled building (room #13 in current configuration) was moved and attached to the east end of the north wall of the hipped roof building (Rooms #2, 3a, 3b, and 4). The double wall thickness of two adjoining walls is evidenced by the 22 inch thick passageway between the two rooms (#13 and #3a) in the current building, and the construction of the exterior intersecting corner of the two buildings on the east side of north addition. (see Figure 5)

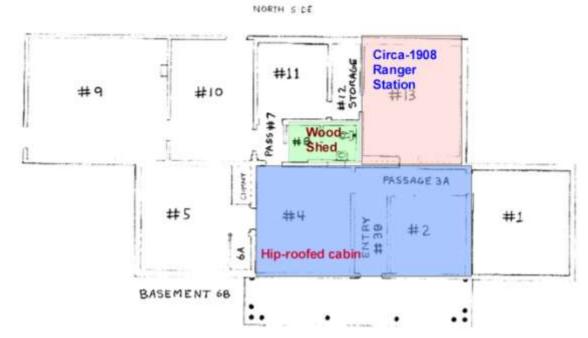


Figure 4 1929 Floor Plan

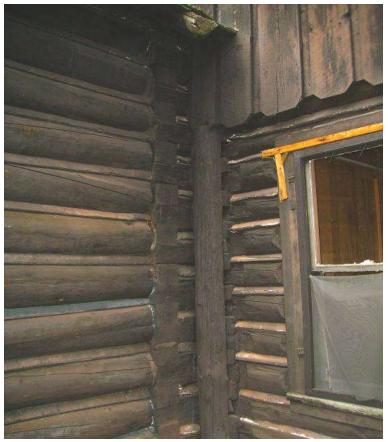


Figure 5 Corner where Rm. #13 abuts #3a, with #1 on left

Other changes to the hipped roof building by 1929 (see 'Stewart Ranger Station AKA Hdqrtrs. Bldg. 1929', Appendix A):

- A window was added to the front of the building, to the east of the entry door.
- A hipped porch roof was added to the front of the building over the entry door.



Figure 6 1929 Archival photograph

Directly inside the main entrance to the building is a now paneled log wall on the west which divided the main structure into two rooms. This wall shows evidence of the fireplace location.



Figure 7 Void in wall in Rm. #4 where old chimney existed



Figure 8 Rms. #3a and #4 with patch of chimney location

There are cutouts through the log walls under the current wallboard and framing still exists in the center of the hipped roof. Additionally, there is evidence of mortar where the fireplace chimney exited the roof. This location also coincides with the photograph of the two buildings referenced above.

1929-1956

In 1929 the Forest Service transferred ownership to the NPS. A *1990 Historic Building/Structure Survey Form* by the NPS suggests that the building was constructed prior to the creation of the Grand Teton National Park in 1929, but there is also a contradiction with the *Mehl's Classified Field Inventory Report* which lists the building as being constructed in the 1930s by CCC crews. The NPS *Structures Survey* form also mentions that the building was modified in 1930³⁵. The CCC federal program began in 1934.

While there is confusion and contradiction in some of these records, it appears most likely that Beaver Creek #10 was incorporated into the Beaver Creek CCC complex designed by landscape architect Keith Matson of the NPS³⁶. The building then served as the park headquarters until completion of the present headquarters at Moose, WY in 1960. 1933 blueprints³⁷ for the proposed ranger station (with adjacent areas) show the footprint of the building being in the "L" shape as described above, with the shorter leg of the "L" pointing north (see 'Hdqrtrs. bldg. c. 1936', Appendix A). In the photograph of the two separate buildings, there is a single window on the east side of the hipped roof structure. In the photograph showing the buildings attached, that window was flanked by an additional window on each side. Removing the

³⁵ Beaver Creek Old Historic Building, <u>Historic Building/Structure Survey Form</u>, National Park Service, 4/23/1990, 2.

³⁶ Ibid, page 6.

³⁷ Blueprints of <u>Proposed Ranger Station</u>, 12/13/1933.

current wallboards on this (now interior) wall should reveal these window locations.



Figure 9 1929 photograph showing side windows added to east elevation of what is now Rm. #2

Sometime after the first (rear) addition was added (#13), a storage shed was added (room #8) to the inside corner of the west wall of the addition, and the north wall of the main hipped roof building. That the east wall of the subsequent addition (1939backs up to the top of the shed roof is evidence of the sequence of construction. Remnants of the shed roof and the west shed frame wall are still present in the toilet area today. (see Figure 10)

This storage shed roof probably housed a wood shed. Limited interior wall demolition revealed a passageway through the wall which would have been convenient access for bringing wood stored in the shed to the original fireplace located inside just a few feet to the southeast.



Figure 10 Rm. #8 showing evidence of lean-to roof

The photograph shows construction of the east wing onto the hipped building. However, since the exact date is unknown and work orders show that alterations were made as early as 1935, the attachment of the first addition and the shed fall into the timeframe of later than 1929, but before 1939.



Figure 11 Beginning of 1939 addition at right

By 1939 the CCC-constructed east (room #1) and west (#5) wings were in place and another addition (#11) slightly narrower than the first (#13) was added to the northwest corner of the hipped building. This changed the footprint from an "L" shape to a long rectangle with the upper half of an "H" centered on the north side. An archival site plan diagram of the headquarters area at Beaver Creek shows the configuration of the building as described, with the shed roof partially filling the gap between the two north additions 38.

³⁸ Analysis of Vehicular Circulation, Old Administration Historic District, 1939.

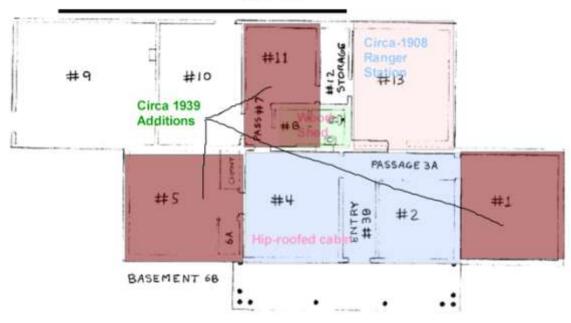


Figure 12 Plan with 1939 additions

Other changes in 1939 or before: (See 'Hdqrtrs. bldg. start of E. addition c. 1939' and 'Hdqrtrs. bldg. with additions 1939' in Appendix A)

The entrance deck was added or enlarged to its current size, and the south hipped porch roof was removed and a larger (current) shed roof extending mostly up the south slope of the roof was added.



Figure 13 Basement under Rm. #5 showing chimney

 Foundations were added prior to all of the additions, and on the CCC-constructed west wing a basement foundation was constructed, including a new chimney. The basement has two large windows on the west side, which show signs of wear on the lower concrete sill,

possibly from being used as a coal chute. In the basement the chimney shows signs that it was used as a flue for a burner of some kind. The chimney was not inspected during this report to determine if it served a fireplace on the first floor.

The CCC additions on the east (#1) and west (#5) sides have log rafters rather than milled lumber. There are currently two sets of dimensional joists over the additions. Presumably the first (higher) set would have served as structural ties between the outside walls, but their lack of suitable attachment to the log rafters tends to dismiss this, which suggests that the first set of joists were meant to support a ceiling instead. However, closer inspection does not show signs of nail holes from ceiling boards. Perhaps these initial joists were used as a loft, but that would have closed in the log joists. Inspecting the second (lower) joists indicates that these are definitely not structural roof members either. It is not clear when each set of joists were added, specifically, if they were installed at the same time or sequentially at later dates. These lower joists were used to support the drop ceiling until it was removed shortly before this investigative report. There is one very plausible explanation for the log rafters: perhaps they were used primarily to provide exposed rafter tails to match the "beaver cut" log ends of the CCC additions, and to conform to the "Rustic Architecture" context of the Grand Teton NP Multiple Property Form.

Next, the old chimney in the center of the hipped roof was removed, and the windows on each side of the entrance were changed from single 2/2 to a pair of 2/2 double-hung sash-type windows.³⁹ The changes to the walls would have warranted wallboard to cover the place where the fireplace was, and where the exterior windows were changed to interior walls. A light colored wallboard can be seen inside the door opening (see 'Hdqrtrs. Bldg. with additions c. 1939', Appendix A).

The north face of the original hipped roof has flashing which indicates that a larger roof was installed covering both north roofs and the shed. The additional covered space (room # 12) gained in the area to the north of the shed between the two additions was enclosed with half log siding and used as a darkroom. ⁴⁰ It is likely that this was when the woodshed was turned into the bathroom. The door into the toilet area (previous woodshed) connecting to the main room was covered with wallboard.

1956 addition

The final NW addition (rooms #9 and 10) was added in 1956. There is a basement under the new addition. No access to this north basement area

⁴⁰ 6-26-1949 folder, Park HQ Area, GT Park and Monument, GTNP & JHNM

³⁹ the date is unclear because one photo (Appendix A, 'HQ bldg c. 1940') shows the additions WITH the older windows and porch roof, but another (earlier?) photo (Appendix A, 'HQ bldg with additions 1939') depicts the roof and windows being replaced.

was available during field investigation for this report.



Figure 14 1956 Addition (Rm. #9)



Figure 15 Floor plan showing 1956 additions

Several steps accommodated the new shed roof necessitated by the addition.

• The roof members of the earliest north additions were partially removed (see photo below of exposed ceiling of room #13).



Figure 16 Roof framing visible in Rm. #11

The overarching roof over them was completely removed (flashing is still visible in the photo below).



Figure 17 Space under 'new' hipped roof

 And the hipped gable on the west wing roof was modified to provide a better transition to the shed roof.



Figure 18 Detail of over roof

 Modification of clipped gable with reverse board and batten siding; large box below is a bat habitat

The new shed roof covered the entire north aspect of the structure. Additional supports were added to reinforce the new shed roof.

Records indicate a variety of uses for Beaver Creek No. 10:

1908-1929: According to *A Place Called Jackson Hole*, the earliest structures were used as a residence/cabin, ranger station, and patrol station.

1929: Acquired by the NPS and at various times used as residence, Park headquarters, visitor center, biology station and administration office *Feb. 22, 1978 Classified Structure Field Inventory Report*

1934-1960: According to the *1990 Historic Building/Structure Survey Form* the building used as park headquarters and "heart of Grand Teton National Park"

1949: used as administration office; housing a bookkeeper, chief ranger, chief clerk, chief naturalist, superintendent, also housed a storage area, lavatory, darkroom and outer office area *June 26, 1949 folder Park Headquarters Area Administration Building #10 GTP and Monument GTNP and JHNM*

1956: Individual Building Data indicates that structure was a residence and notes "bath facilities" under the heading "Plumbing" also July 29, 1959 folder Beaver Creek Area Residence #10 GTNP

1977 photos indicate use as Biology Station

1987: Classified Structure Field Inventory Report used as Resource Management Office with four offices plus storage room

1990: used as office building with nine rooms 1990 Historic Building/Structure Survey Form

1991: April 8, 1991 Memorandum from Jack Stark used as Office of Science and Resource Management with six permanent and several seasonal employees

1992 fax transmittal from Richard Cronenberger (Division of Cultural Resources) to Marshall Gingery (Chief-Division of Science, Resource Management, Planning and Compliance) used as Wildlife Biology Office

July 1992: used as Wildlife Biology Office which was vacated for remediation and remodeling *Memo from Wildlife Biologist to Asst. Superintendent regarding work being done by Williamsport Training Center*

2003: Building Inspection Form July 22, 2003 notes its use as the Science and Resource Management Office

2006: Single Entry Report update by Sayre Hutchison states that the building is "abandoned and unmaintained"

Section 5: Physical Description

Site & Landscaping

"The Old Administrative Area Historic District (at Beaver Creek) is set at the cusp of the flat and open Snake River bottomlands and the forest that stretches to the foot of the Tetons. Grand Teton Park Road, the primary park thoroughfare during the historic period, is located just east of the administrative district. The buildings are organized around a central loop road, with a housing area to the south and west and the maintenance area to the north."

Beaver Creek #10 faces a broad open expanse between the main road and the loop. While administratively a part of the Beaver Creek Historic District, it is not fully integrated into the spatial composition of the CCC era complex. As established in Section 4, although Beaver Creek #10 was modified to architecturally blend in with the new buildings its location on the site predates the other structures

Also of note is the radical change in the density and maturity of vegetation currently around the building, as compared to that during the period of significance. Today, the building is bracketed to the east and west by two large spruces, and there are several other conifers very close to the foundation of the building.

The tree at the southeast corner is so close that it is contributing to immediate and ongoing decomposition of the purlin with which it is in contact and the 'beaver tail' log ends directly beneath the purlin. Other landscape features are a smattering of sagebrush, various shrubbery, weeds and an occasional lone tree. The only other landscape features are a pebble walkway from the south facing entry door to the paved parking area located directly in front of the south elevation.

⁴¹ NPS Historic Building/ Structure Survey Form, 4/23/1990,1



Figure 19 Archival photograph c. 1939



Figure 20 Current entrance with vegetation



Figure 21 Vegetation at southwest corner

Construction

The building has a concrete foundation with intermittingly placed crawl space and basement vents, most of which have wooden covers. The walls include horizontal round logs, half log siding or board and batten rough-cut wood; all stained brown. The log walls are chinked with either willow stops or lath and the daub appears to have been made from local organic matter with concrete used at later dates. The front porch has exposed rafters and is supported by log columns; its base is square-cut solid timbers. There are three exterior doors. Windows include double-hung sash, fixed, hopper and double-paned casement types; all have wooden headers, casings and sills. Most all of the windows have an exterior storm or screen window covering. The roofline includes a hipped gable with purlins, ½ hipped gable with purlins & ½ shed, and shed. There is a rubble stone chimney and three vertical (covered) vents on a green eco-shake® covered roof.

Exterior: General

The architectural style of the building is rustic; it has four bays, is one story with a partial basement and has an irregular Z-plan (approx. 2375 sq. ft.).⁴² A character defining quality of this rustic style building is its two notching styles; saddle-notched and square-notched. The saddle-notched, which can all be seen, are beveled or beaver tail cut ending at various lengths within a few inches of

⁴² Classified Structure Field Inventory Report, 2/22/1978, 1

each other. The square-notched are flush with the sides of the logs and mostly hidden with vertical half-logs. These are two examples of the most prevalent types of log construction in the west. Another distinctive quality of this building is that the main gable roof evolves into a clipped gable at the east wing and a shed roof at the northwest addition which is board and batten siding over wood frame.⁴³

South Elevation

The south elevation is the principal entrance and includes a front porch which is constructed of typically 8"x 8" solid rough hewn timbers that rest on saddle-notched ½ log sleepers with a small amount of reinforcing concrete at both its east and west lower edges. Eight log columns support the shed roof over the porch: the corner columns are a cluster of three logs with two single log columns in between and they are typically 7'9" tall. There is also a large solid, rectangular rough hewn step placed between the two single log columns from ground level up to the porch. There are exposed rafters at the bottom of the roof line where it meets the upper edges of the log columns. The walls of this entire elevation consist of round logs. The entry door is a board and batten style hinged on the left with three large wrought iron hinges. It is hung slightly to the right of the center of the building. Approximately 6" to the west side of this door, the square-notched wall joint used to divide the original two rooms of this structure can be seen (see Figure 22).



Figure 22 Front door

⁴³ NPS Historic Building/Structure Survey form, 4/23/1990, 4

The log directly above the door header has a long horizontal cut mark which extends about 1½ on either side of the door frame and provides evidence of the earlier hipped roof porch attachment. A pair of 2/2 double-hung sash windows are located on either side of the entry door. Both the east and west addition have double-hung sash windows at their perspective centers.

South Elevation of 1956 Shed-Roofed Addition

This portion of the building is just to the north and west of the log west elevation. There are three nine-light hopper windows located about sixty-five inches from the ground. On the lower half of the wall there is board and batten siding and on the upper half there is reverse board and batten; six of these boards on either side of the windows have their lower corners clipped, creating a scalloped effect. There are three animal/bird holes in the upper section of this elevation (see Figure 23).



Figure 23 1956 addition

The lower north corner (where this addition connects to the west elevation of the CCC log addition) reveals the only visible sign of foundation decay on the entire building.



Figure 24 Log decay at corner of addition

There is a metal pipe at ground level running north to south from inside the building and continuing under the basement access cover as well as two smaller metal pipes coming from the log addition's west elevation interior, over the top of the foundation and extending below ground.

West Elevation



Figure 25 West elevation showing 1956 addition abutting 1939 addition

As shown above, the west elevation features both the CCC log addition connected to the south (front) elevation, and the west elevation of the 1956 shed-roofed board and batten frame addition just to the north. At the base of this log addition there is a wooden shingle roofed basement access cover set on a concrete sill. A pair of 1/1 double-hung sash windows are centered in the log wall. A rectangular wooden bat habitat is positioned between the pair of windows and the modified roof. The earlier clipped gable had a triangular shaped reverse board and batten section added on, perhaps to visually integrates the two additions.

Below the 1956 frame addition's shed roof there is an entry door on the right. To the north of that door are two nine-light windows, one fixed and one hopper. Like the south elevation of this addition, the lower portion is board and batten and the upper portion has five of its reverse board and batten boards with their lower corners clipped. This addition has a louvered covered vent above the entry door near its shed roof line. There are nine animal/bird holes which have been covered over with metal or screen covers.



Figure 26 North elevation showing 1956 addition abutting earlier construction

The north elevation (going from west to east) includes the board and batten addition, a log addition, a 5'2 ½" wide half-log sided enclosure and the earliest log addition; all of which are under a fascia board beneath a shed roof.

The most westerly portion is the board and batten addition; it contains six nine-light windows, five fixed and one hopper window, which are located just under the fascia. A panel door with a single-light window and a screen door have one step down to the ground and are at the most easterly part of this addition. On the east side of this door is a vertical metal pipe which runs down to the bottom of the door and then extends west to just below the east side of the second nine-light window where it ends in a small rectangular metal box, possibly an electrical connection.

The section to the east (Rm. #11) is log with a new construction, double-paned casement window. Also visible are vertical half-logs which cover the square-notched logs of this addition's original log corners.

The next section east is the now enclosed space (Rm. # 12) which was originally an open area between the previously recorded log addition and the earliest easterly addition of this elevation. This small area has half-log siding with a vertical half-log covering its junction with the most easterly section.



Figure 27 East part of north elevation

The section shown in Figure 27 is the original ranger station (Rm. #13) which was joined to the other cabin before 1929. Where its square-notched original log corners meet the half-log siding on the small enclosed section there is, again, a vertical half-log cover as also seen on the corner. The window in this section is a fixed single-light and its storm window covering is a fixed two-light. On the bottom log of this wall there is a spliced log with two different wood grains, indicating a replacement.

North Elevation of East CCC Addition



Figure 28 North elevation of Rm. #1

The north elevation pictured above is of the most eastern CCC addition of the building. There is a good example of the half-covered crawl space vent beneath the most easterly window. The two windows are undivided double-hung sash. Above the windows there are nine exposed pointed end rafters. At the intersecting corner, the point where this addition's round logs are attached to the

hipped roof building's square-notched logs is clearly visible. Further west on this wall there is a vertical half-log where the earliest hipped roof building meets the east elevation of the most eastern rear log addition (see Figure 29).



Figure 29 Joint of Rm. #1 and #13

East Elevation



Figure 30 East elevation

The east elevation includes the east CCC addition and the c. 1929 addition. The c. 1929 addition is a log structure joined to the north wall of the hipped roof building (Stewart Ranger Station). The windows are two one over one dublehungs, placed slightly off-center. The shed roof starts at the ridge line of the clipped gable roof line of the east CCC addition and extends to the end of this addition's log wall at the north elevation. Above the windows there is reverse board and batten siding which extends to the roof line. The lower corners of this siding are clipped like those of the south and west elevations of the 1956 shed roofed addition. A louvered covered vent is above the southern-most window and matches the vent on the west elevation.

The east elevation of the CCC addition has a pair of one over one double-hung windows with an access hole drilled into the lower right hand corner of the northern most storm window. The beveled or 'beaver tail' cut ends of the log walls ascend to where the first two of four purlins are located just beneath the clipped gable roof. There is a 2x4 bolted to the log wall on the fifth log course from the ground, south of the windows. Also there are three animal/bird holes on this elevation.

Roof

The roof combines several types, and is covered with green eco-shake® material. There is a rubble stone chimney with visible flashing located near the center of the roof toward the west elevation with one stone lying on the roof near the chimney's northwest corner. Also on the roof are 3 vertical (covered) vents. These features are best viewed from the northwest corner of the north elevation at ground level as seen below.



Figure 31 View from north showing eco-shake roof

Interior

The interior of the building is divided into ten distinct rooms with an entryway, two passageways, the stairway into the basement and the basement. There are two exposed log walls within the 5'x10' unused space between rooms #13 and #11 (see floor plan, Appendix B) which are the east log addition and west log addition, respectively. The only other exposed log wall is in room #11 and this wall is the west wall of the most western log addition.

The other rooms appear close to the description rendered on April 23, 1990 in the National Park Service's *Historic Building/Structure Survey*: "The wood floors have been carpeted. The walls have been refinished with wood veneer paneling. The two rooms of the northwest addition are carpeted. The walls are finished with painted plywood and battens. All trim is painted."

The basement is mostly located beneath room #5 (likely with an extension or separate portion under rooms #9 & #10; we had no access to this area). There are six steep stairs heading south leading down to a small square landing and another five steps heading west to the basement floor. Within the space there are remnants of a brick chimney along the eastern concrete block wall. Also, located inside the square shaped space is a shelving unit; near which are stacked lumber, a door and stored windows. The west wall contains an opening leading up to the exterior of the building; the concrete lower edge of which is hacked or broken away. This perhaps happened when the computer components were installed in a separate room at this level; again, we had no access to investigate that space.



Figure 32 Basement stairs and interior basement walls

Section 6: Evaluation of Significance

Statement of Significance

Research conducted for this report indicates that Beaver Creek No.10 was not built in the 1930s, as listed on the National Register of Historic Places Nomination form completed for the district in 1988, but rather represents a much broader range of history from the arrival of the Forest Service in the region in 1908, to the National Park Service's controversial entry in 1929, and until the relocation of Park Service administrative headquarters to Moose in 1958. As such, the building not only presents a rare example of pre-WWI rustic architecture but also is a living document of the Park Service's growth throughout the Twentieth Century. Beaver Creek No.10 served as headquarters for local forces interested in the expansion of the park following its initial creation in 1929, and as such reflects the national trend of conservation that played a very significant role in the shaping of today's Jackson Hole and Grand Teton National Park. The structure also provides an example of New Deal and Depression-era politics with the addition of two wings and several updated features undertaken by the CCC in 1939.

While the numerous structural alterations to the building could be construed as negatively impacting its historical integrity, the multiple additions to the structure are precisely what make the building unique and historically significant. Each addition tells a small portion of the historic tale of the Forest Service, the Park Service, and the battle for the conservation of the Jackson Hole region; even after the dramatic legal battles of the 1940s and the final victory of the Park Service to expand the park boundaries in 1950, Beaver Creek No.10 continued to serve as the park's administrative headquarters. As such, the building as a whole is representative of the National Park Service's history at Grand Teton National Park and stands as a testament to the Park Service's perseverance and growth over the decades.

The period of significance, therefore, can be defined as 1908 through 1958, covering the construction of the initial building as a forest ranger station by Al Austen circa 1908, 46 and including the years that Beaver Creek No. 10 served as the administrative headquarters of the park. While the 1956 addition has a distinct architectural style that differs from the architecture of the rest of the building, it was constructed with sympathetic materials that adhere to the National Park Service's definition of rustic architecture and it does not overpower the older sections of the building. 47

⁴⁴ John Daugherty, *A Place Called Jackson Hole: The Historic Resource Study of Grand Teton National Park* (Grand Teton National Park, National Park Service, 1999), 318.

⁴⁵ Ibid.

⁴⁶ Ibid., 297.

Stephen Mehls and Stephen Pettit, *Classified Structure Field Inventory Report, Resource Management Office, Structure # 10* (Beaver Creek Old Administrative Complex Building HS-0010 Inventory Forms File, GTNP Archives, Moose, Wyoming 1987), 2.

Character-Defining Features

The character-defining features of Beaver Creek No.10 include:

- Log construction
- Exposed rafter tails
- Exposed purlin ends
- Extended beaver tail log ends
- Saddle notches
- Square notches
- Paired windows
- Multiple roof lines
- Open porch with log columns
- Hipped gable roof

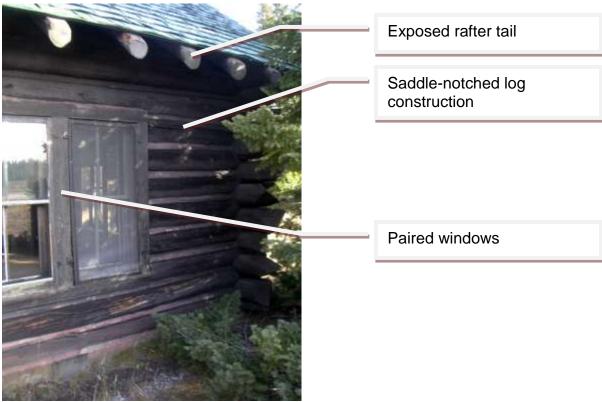


Figure 33 East side of south elevation



Figure 34 West part of south elevation

Beaver tail log end

Exposed rafter tail

Open porch with log columns



Figure 35 East elevation

Character-defining features that have been lost:

- Hipped roof of the two-room cabin⁴⁸
- North half of the 1929 cabin addition
- Central chimney of hipped roof cabin

Despite the loss of some defining attributes, Beaver Creek No. 10 has maintained its historic integrity. The numerous additions constructed over the years, while remaining consistent with the rustic architectural theme of the Administrative Complex Historic District, reflect the history and expansion of the Park Service. The NRHP-listed district has helped to preserve the integrity of the setting as well, and although the earliest (1929) cabin addition to the building was moved from its original location, its footprint can possibly still be seen approximately fifty-five feet to the northeast of the extant building, which stands in its original location. (Future archaeological study needs to be completed in this area.) The majority of the exterior construction material for Beaver Creek No. 10 has maintained its historic integrity as well, with only a few log and log end replacements. The integrity of the workmanship, along with the feeling and association of the building has also been maintained. Despite numerous interior modifications, the building's historic integrity remains solid.



Figure 36 CCC construction of addition 1939

⁴⁸ The hipped roof has not been entirely "lost," as the rafters and plank sheathing remain under the current roof system.

Section 7: Condition Assessment

While visual assessments of the extent of deterioration are somewhat subjective, a consistent vocabulary aids in understanding relative decay. In an effort to establish such consistency, the Colorado Historical Society recently conducted a survey of best practices and the terminology used in various National Park Service publications and specifically in John Burns' text, *Recording Historic Structures* (1989). See http://www.coloradohistory-oahp.org/publications/pubs/1424fact.pdf.

The use of **good**, **fair** and **poor** suggested in that publication, and employed here are as follows:

A feature or element is evaluated in **Good** Condition when:

- it is intact, structurally sound, and performing its intended purpose
- there are few or no cosmetic imperfections
- it needs no repair and only minor or routine maintenance

A feature or element is evaluated in Fair Condition when:

- there are early signs of wear, failure, or deterioration, although the feature or element is generally structurally sound and performing its intended purpose
- there is failure of a sub-component of the feature or element
- "replacement of up to 25% of the feature or element is required
- replacement of a defective sub-component of the feature or element is required.

A feature or element is evaluated in **Poor** Condition when:

- it is no longer performing its intended purpose
- it is missing
- it shows signs of imminent failure or breakdown
- deterioration or damage affects more than 25% of the feature or element and cannot be adjusted or repaired
- it requires major repair or replacement

Exterior

Beaver Creek #10 is situated at the entrance to a residential historic district on the west side of the Snake River, three miles northwest of Moose, WY. Originally called the Stewart Ranger Station, the log building is an integral, character defining part of the historic district.



Figure 37 South elevation

When taken as a whole, the building is generally in **fair** physical condition. The exterior walls have been stained brown and seem sound with several exceptions. Resistance drill testing (combined with visual and hand probe inspection) at several locations reveal wood rot primarily at exposed beaver, rafter and purlin tails. Several tests reveal 1-2" voids in wall logs (see Drill Test Chart, Appendix C), with the most serious (50% void) at D2. Large, historically insignificant spruce trees at the southeast and southwest corners of the building seem to be creating microclimates which retain moisture which enters the logs through the end grain and saddle notches.

Roof

The roof appears in **good** condition. Watermarks under the roof sheathing indicate previous water intrusion, apparently rectified with the recent installation of an eco-shake® roof by the NPS. The fascia at the north elevation, unprotected by either gutters or drip edge, is weathered and shows signs of distress due to water/snow. Exposed rafter (south & north elevations) and purlin (east elevation) tails, as mentioned above, are beginning to show indications of wood rot, and while in **fair** condition, will require significant treatment.

Resistance drill testing indicates log fiber integrity the entire diameter of the rafter at the top wall log (see Drill Test Chart, Appendix C).



Figure 38 Wood decay at exposed porch rafters



Figure 39 Resistance drill testing at east elevation 'beaver tail'

Porch

The covered porch on the south elevation is in **fair** condition. The log columns, having seen minor repairs in the past, are structurally sound. The porch deck is being affected by the prevailing weather patterns (from the south), as evidenced by several logs having damaged tails. The step to the porch from the ground is significantly deteriorated (see Figure 40).



Figure 40 Decay of porch timber

Walls

The log walls appear in **good** condition. Areas of concern are the east elevation walls, the west elevation log wall and the north elevation. As mentioned above, large spruce trees at the southwest and southeast corners have enabled moisture to collect at the vulnerable log joints. Rot has set in at the beaver tails, necessitating past repairs of several tails. Testing indicates core rot up to 2' from the ends of several beaver tails (see Drill Test Chart, Appendix C). Only one sill log (south elevation, D14) appears to be affected by moisture, having a 3.5" internal void. One additional sill log has been replaced (North elevation, east corner).

Furthermore, the east and west elevations show indications of bird activity, possibly searching for insects within the logs. NPS personnel have attempted to seal some of these holes with either wire mesh or metal plate.

The issue of snow accumulation on the north elevation is best illustrated by the deterioration of the daubing on this wall and the east elevation log wall. These are the areas of the most significant daubing distress.



Figure 41 Shed roof as seen from the east. Note missing log rafter tail

The 1956 addition is stick framed with vertical board and batten siding. Little evidence exists of previous paint or wood stain, necessary to protect the wood from the elements. The window trim was obviously painted green at one time but has since deteriorated to the point where it serves no purpose. The siding at the south elevation (and to some extent at the west elevation) is in relatively poor condition. Many of the 1 x 10 boards have deteriorated (large cracks) and threaten the building envelope's integrity.

Windows

The windows are in **fair** condition. Lack of regular building maintenance has obviously adversely affected the exterior of most windows. However, no degradation appears irreversible at this time. Several windows panes are broken and some storm sashes are missing or have broken panes. All windows and trim lack paint or any other protective finish. While individual window parts may be damaged and in need of replacement or repairs, overall, the windows appear in **fair** condition. We recommend a more thorough assessment by a skilled wood preservationist.

Windows on the south, east and west elevations of the pre-1956 are double hung. North elevation windows of Rooms #11 and #13 are sliders. Windows in the 1956 addition (Rooms #9 and #10) are hoppers.



Figure 42 West wall of Rm. #5 with double hung windows (right window has a storm sash)



Figure 43 Double hung window with broken panes in storm sash

Doors

Beaver Creek #10 has three exterior doors, only one of which contributes to the historic character of the building (front entrance). The front door is in **good** condition, although somewhat worn at the bottom. The exterior door at the west elevation lacks a step to grade level and presents a safety issue. The exterior doors at the west and north elevations both are historically incompatible.



Figure 44 Front (south) door

Building perimeter at grade

Visual inspection reveals the exterior of the foundation to be in **good** condition. No sagging or deterioration is evident. The slope of the grade may be somewhat of a concern, as it appears less than 5 degrees. This flatness is particularly noticeable at the north elevation. The large shed roof and improper drainage has created moisture problems in the past, including water seeping into the building.

Condition Assessment: Interior

Having many uses throughout its history, Beaver Creek #10 has undergone many changes to its interior, losing much of its historic integrity and "feel" in the process. The office partition walls with the brown veneer paneling are particularly inconsistent with the historic fabric of the interior.

Upon entering the building, one is immediately confronted with the exposed framing for a drop ceiling and a great many exposed electrical wires, both Romex® and "knob and tube". Many of these wires drop out of the suspended ceiling to approximately 3 feet above finished floor. Since many panels of the suspended ceiling have been removed the roof rafters and purlins of the shed roof have been exposed to some degree. The remains of previous roofs conceal the roof framing to a large extent.



Figure 45 Exposed purlins and shed roof rafters above

The dropped ceiling's removal exposed log purlins, roof sheathing, and metal flashing and log rafters from three previous building alterations. Most interesting is the exposed roof, with full hips, from the Stewart Ranger Station.



Figure 46 Interior of Rm. #9. Note interior use of pressure treated lumber in ceiling joists

Removal of the ceiling panels has revealed that the framing consists of Wolmanized® 2 x 4's. This material, designed for exterior use, has been proven to be a human health hazard.

The interior spaces, in **fair** condition overall, have suffered from pest infestation (Bat guano, rodent feces). Many of the exposed wires have been chewed partially or completely through. Pest waste was found behind paneling, on windowsills and the floor etc. Recent remediation efforts are incomplete and a human health hazard persists.

Surprisingly, several of the baseboard heaters are operable, as are several lights. Plumbing has been removed, although lavatory fixtures appear in good condition. No water supply line was found.

Roof rafters appear in **good** condition with the exception of the dimensional 2 x 10 rafters for the shed roof over rooms 9 and 10. These rooms are 17' wide (North – South) and there is no intermediate support, resulting in the failure of two rafters. (see photo below)



Figure 47 Cracked rafter in Rm. #9

There is also strong evidence of water penetration from the roof. However, it does appear that the leaks have been corrected with the new (2003) eco-shake® roof, as moisture levels are very low. One log rafter in the east CCC addition shows evidence of rot moving up the log from the exterior.

Many of the interior log walls have been covered with wood veneer paneling (non-historic) so it is not possible to accurately assess the condition of these walls. Some paneling was removed, revealing (in addition to rodent feces) a door opening between room #4 and #8 (see dotted lines at sink wall; BC #10 floor plan Appendix B). Log walls left uncovered appear in excellent condition, as do most windows. Several windows have been painted shut and a couple have individual lights damaged, however the four nine-light hopper windows and the like fixed windows in rooms #9 and #10 are in excellent condition. Most of the 1 x 4 interior trim, while non-historic, is rustic in appearance and in excellent condition.

Most of the interior doors have been removed. The two that remain are in good condition. Interior partition walls, covered in veneer paneling, are in fine condition yet are historically incompatible.



Figure 48 Non-historic wood veneer paneling and casement window

Throughout the building the floors are level and solid with one exception. The floor along the wall between rooms #4 and #5, in room #4, is deflected. Access to this area under the floor during inspection was impossible due to health risks and the lack of protective clothing and equipment. There is evidence that the affected floor joist has been replaced at one time, however it is insufficiently supported and is sagging in the center.

The interior spaces, while appearing in disarray, are actually in **good** condition. Individual elements such as windows, doors, the roof, floor and log walls are all in **good** to **fair** condition. Electricity is limited, water or plumbing non-existent. The lack of heat and insulation would currently preclude the building's use in the winter.

Threats to human health currently exist in the forms of rodent and bat waste, pressure treated lumber in the interior spaces and the insufficiently supported 2 x 10 shed roof over rooms #9 and #10. Several interior partition walls are historically incompatible.

Basement/Foundation

The foundation of the interior of the original hipped roof structure was placed on stone, with varying degrees of support. The additions were placed on substantially stronger and more stable stone, block, and formed concrete foundations.

The basement accessed through stair #6A, under the CCC c.1939 addition is in good condition (see floor plan drawing, Appendix B). A second basement is

connected to the north side of that basement, which rests under the c.1956 shed addition, as described in the "Chronology of Development and Use". There is some deterioration of the concrete at the intersection of the two basements but this seems more a rodent problem than a structural one. The basement joists are heavy duty suggesting the intention that they would carry a significant load. There did not appear to be any obvious structural problems with any of the basement walls or floor, but the areas were not fully available due to a locked door to the basement under the shed addition (there is a GIS computer system in that basement) so a complete inspection was not performed.

The rest of the exterior foundations have undergone improvements and all appear to be in good condition. There are vents which are covered to block rodent entry which are preventing proper ventilation of the crawl spaces, and this also increases the accumulation of radon. Some plastic has been installed under the old darkroom and the addition just to the west, to help the keep the moisture from entering the crawl space. This room, which encompasses the 1939 additions to the northwest, now includes room #11, the passageway #7, and the entire bathroom #8 (which also includes the old wood shed), has had some improvements in addition to the plastic. The old shed area of the bathroom has an access door in the floor. This reveals that the immediate area has newer lumber (3½" by 1½" dimensional lumber), and is structurally sound. Also, the first NW addition (room #11) floor can be seen under the floor repair described in "Chronology of Development and Use". The entire area rests on single stone foundations which are currently stable, but could be a problem of concern in the future, depending on the use of the building.

The section directly to the south of this addition consists of the smaller of the original two rooms of the original hip building. This is the area of the entire structure which warrants the most concern. Due to differential settling, moisture, rodent chewing, and an insufficient floor joist system, the floor is sagging; most noticeably on the west end of the floor. Just on the other side of the floor is the basement staircase. The SW corner of the basement has an opening above the 90 degree platform of the staircase, which allows access to the crawl space under the floor area just described. Access to this area reveals that the floor has two newer joists sixteen and thirty-two inches in from the wall/foundation; and older joists continue every sixteeninches from there. There is no moisture barrier, and daylight can be seen along the south wall which adjoins the porch deck.

Summary

The interior and exterior of Beaver Creek #10 are similar in that they each have individual aspects where the building is showing signs of stress as a result of poor or irregular maintenance. The failing rafters and siding at the west 1956 addition, threatening the building's interior envelope, are the most glaring examples. However, since many of the primary building systems maintain their integrity, both structurally and historically, Beaver Creek #10 can be considered in good condition.

Part 2 – Treatment and Work Recommendations

Section 8: Historic Preservation Objectives

Beaver Creek #10 was constructed and significantly altered over five decades (1908-1956), almost encapsulating the original Stewart Ranger Station. Due to its role as the central Forest Service and Park administration building for so many years, it is arguably one of the most significant historic structures within Grand Teton National Park. The current description of this building in the Old Administrative Area Historic District in the 1990 National Register designation (Smithsonian # 48TE1137) completely misses the important role of Beaver Creek #10. Since Beaver Creek #10 was at the center of many tumultuous changes within the boundaries of what eventually became Grand Teton National Park, one is hard pressed to label any one period over the span of 100 years as the building's most significant. Having been the Forest Service's headquarters up to 1929, there is well documented animosity prior to and during the change of ownership to the National Park Service. The building was the Park Service's HQ from 1934 to 1960⁴⁹, and was utilized in 1943 when Jackson Hole National Monument was established by President Roosevelt, establishing the park boundaries we know today⁵⁰. Physically the building saw the log additions constructed by the CCC crews and several changes to the roof line. In 1956, recognizing the need for additional space, the Park Service enlarged the administration building with the west frame addition. As Grand Teton National Park grew and evolved, so too did Beaver Creek #10.

Today, Beaver Creek #10 is situated at the entrance to an active residential district. While its most recent use before being "mothballed" was as much needed office space, its future use may be best suited for a use in keeping with or compatible to the residential use; e.g., V.I.P. lodging, community center, employee housing, etc. However, Park Service needs may evolve over the course of the project. The Secretary of the Interior's (SOI) Standards and Guidelines for Treatment provide the flexibility necessary to accommodate the Park Service's needs with those of the building.

Of the four treatment strategies elaborated by the SOI Standards (i.e., rehabilitation, restoration, reconstruction, preservation) the **rehabilitation treatment** is both the most flexible and usually most appropriate for a building to be kept (or placed) in use, either as it has evolved over time, or modified with justifiable removals of non-historic fabric. However, should some earlier period of significance be judged to be pre-eminent in the interpretation of this structure and

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⁴⁹ 1990 Historic Building/Structure Survey Form.

⁵⁰ Skaggs. Creation of Grand Teton National Park (A Thumbnail History.1/2000. NPS online archives.

compatible with an intended use of the structure, then a **restoration** that may remove one or more additions might be considered. Further recommendations are made with the assumption that rehabilitation is the more likely treatment. Restoration would require significantly more archival and field research to assure accuracy.

Consideration of the 1956 Addition

As noted above, considering that Beaver Creek #10 is part of an active multi-use district in Grand Teton National Park, several different functions may be compatible for a building of this size (2375 sq. ft. with 1956 addition; 1700 sq. ft. without addition). The outstanding question for park management is whether the 1956 addition sufficiently detracts from the significance and integrity of the building to the extent that it merits removal.



Figure 49 Beaver Creek #10 with CCC additions c. 1940



Figure 50 1956 addition from the southwest

We believe that a case could be made for either position, and here assume that reconsideration of this building's significance in the context of the development of the Old Administrative District will be an important and valuable process. However, we do note that even if the current period of significance is expanded from the current 1934-1939, the 1956 addition will have at best been a part of the building for only a small portion of its period of significance.

Section 9: Requirements for Work

In rehabilitating Beaver Creek #10 every effort should be made to preserve character defining historic materials. As noted in Section 6, the exterior of Beaver Creek #10 is significant, and largely retains it integrity. The interior, while the site of events and activity that could be seen a contributing to the significance of the site, has been so modified that it has largely lost its integrity.

Wherever replacement of components or assemblies is necessary, "like materials" and compatible design should be utilized, including the paint at the exterior trim (door, window, fascia etc.). Refer to the Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines – Rehabilitation. All work performed should be documented and any new addition(s) should be distinct and reversible.

Immediately prior to "mothballing" of the building, an infestation of rodents and bats occurred, making the building's interior spaces unsuitable for use. Since Beaver Creek #10 went unoccupied and untended for fifteen years since, feces and guano have accumulated in virtually every nook and cranny. While the building recently received remediation efforts (2006/2007), the job is incomplete. All wall coverings and carpet should be removed during future remediation as feces were found behind every panel removed during the HSR investigation. Additionally, re-infestation needs to be prevented by sealing the exterior façade. Due to health concerns, no other rehabilitation work should be performed prior to full remediation.

Section 10: Short-term Work Recommendations

Exterior

Park Service personnel have not yet reached a consensus on the ideal function for a rehabilitated Beaver Creek #10 and there are obvious budgetary constraints. Recognizing that a rehabilitation project may take many years to see funding, **Preservation** may be a viable option in the short term. Beaver Creek #10 is an extremely significant historical structure and should not be allowed to deteriorate further. Stabilizing the shed roof for the winter's snows, sealing the building from rodent and bat infestation, repairing daubing at the north and east elevations, regular snow removal from the north elevation and treating the exposed log tails would go a long way to preserving this important historic structure for a future rehabilitation project.

The Spruce trees at the southwest and southeast corners should be removed. Photographic records prove that they are not historically significant. If left alone, the relatively small wood decay problems at these locations will become much more significant. Removal of the two trees will make managing the associated log decay issues more feasible.



Figure 51 Exposed log tail deteriorating due to moist conditions related to tree as southeast corner of building

The rafter and purlin tails have begun to show signs of distress from exposure to water. The same is true for the ends of the front porch ½ log deck. Like the

situation with the spruce trees, remedy the cause of the distress before more invasive repairs are necessary. Any repairs should ideally be compatible with the rest of the structure and its historic properties.

Interior spaces also require sympathetic treatment, and should be compliant with standards established by the Secretary of the Interior. Removal of wall coverings will enable a more thorough assessment of the log condition underneath. Any remaining electrical wiring or plumbing (pipes) should be removed, as it is unsafe. New plumbing and electrical requirements should be detailed in new architectural drawings, or specified by a qualified plumber or electrician. Mechanical heat and insulation are necessary if the building is to be utilized year-round.



Figure 52 Various types of exposed electrical wiring

Most significantly, the west 1956 addition may require the services of a structural engineer as the roof system may be undersized and structurally compomised. Snow loads in the Grand Tetons are extreme and this roof has two rafters that have already failed. Safety concerns require this structural problem be addressed. Also of concern is the south elevation 1956 board/batten wall. Many large checks expose the interior framing to the elements and increases shear concerns for this wall.



Figure 53 1956 addition at west elevation. Note bat habitat on gable end

The north elevation, in all likelihood, will always accumulate large amounts of snow, no matter the roof configuration. One possible method of eliminating the snow as a threat to the building's integrity is for the Park Service to engage in a regular winter maintenance (snow removal) schedule for Beaver Creek #10. Removal of the snow lying against the building's exterior is most important during the spring freeze/thaw cycle. Increasing the slope of the grade around the perimeter of the building is also recommended.



Figure 54 Winter snow c. 1936

Specifically,

- Repair concrete deterioration at the outside intersection of the basements, or cover with wire cloth.
- Inspect area for roof drainage, snow buildup, or other sources of water which may be causing the concrete to fail under freeze-thaw conditions.
- Weatherize existing window openings, either with temporary "storm windows" or repair existing windows.
- A non-historic pine tree directly to the south is blocking the sun, and could be removed. Area should be inspected for proper drainage.
- Remove covers from foundation vents, and cover with ½" wire mesh to reduce moisture and prevent rodent entry.
- Install wire mesh around the foundation as described in *Historical* buildings Beaver Cr HQ 2004-5.doc, Attachment to email 4-1-05, Grounds and Building Exteriors & Interiors.
- A minor amount of work could improve the slope to the north, NW and NE areas of ground.
- Routine maintenance should include regular inspections for further deterioration .

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Appendix A – Historic Photographs



1939 Additions in Progress



1940 West elevation



1930 Image of Headquarters



1930 Headquarters

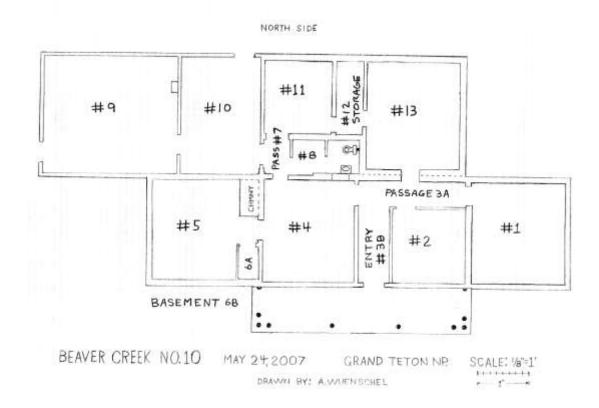
Appendix B – Drawings

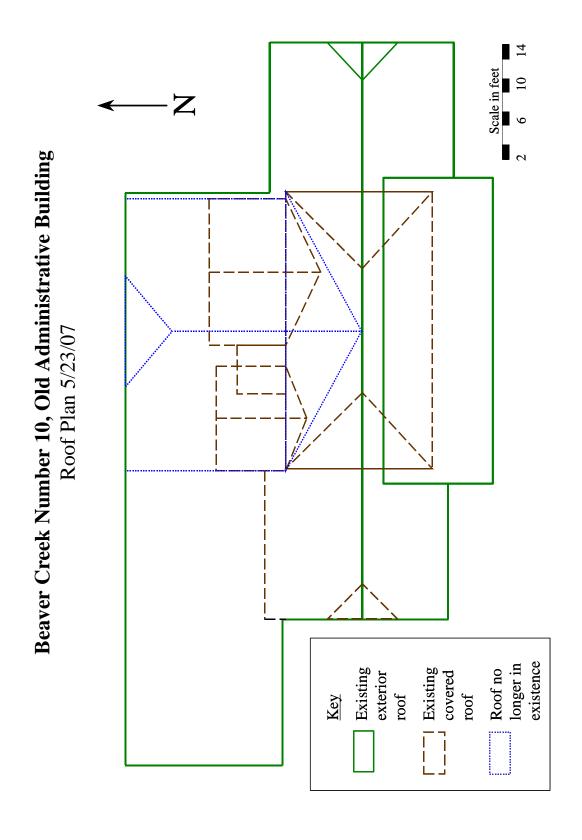
Floor plan by Andrew Weunschel

Roof plan by Lorna Meidinger

Approximate room dimensions

Room #	Description	Length (E/W)	Width (N/S)
1	East CCC wing	14'6"	15'5"
2	Office	10'10"	11'6"
3A+3B (+2)	Main entry/hall	15'11"	15'11"
4	Secondary room	13'12"	15'11"
5	West CCC wing	14'10"	14'10"
6A	Basement entrance	3'3"	5'6"
6B	Main basement	14'10"	14'10"
6C	Second basement	unknown	unknown
7	Passageway	3'9"	5'8"
8	Bath	10'2"	5'2"
9	W. end of '56 addition	20'6"	17'9"
10	E. end of '56 addition	11'9"	17'9"
11	NW log addition	10'2"	11' (+/-)
12	Storage/darkroom	3'10"	11' (+/-)
13	Earliest (NE) log addition	14'	15'11"





Appendix C – Consultant Report

Ron Anthony, Anthony and Associates.

Resistance drilling was accomplished with the IML-RESI System manufactured by IML GmbH of Germany. This form of resistance drilling is a quasi-nondestructive technique developed specifically for determining the relative density of wood.

A small needle, 12 inches long and less than 1/8 inch in diameter, penetrates the wood at a constant rate, reading out the resistance encountered on a strip of paper. The data recorded on the strips represents the internal voids and the intermediate stages of decay. The size of the voids can be quantified by measuring the length of any areas on the strip.

Beaver Creek Administration Complex, Building #10

Drilling				Drilling	
Number	Elevation	Member	Location	Direction	Comments
D1	north	rafter	room 1, rafter #7 (from the east), near north wall		5" solid rafter
D2	east	purlin	south end of top plate, log with visible deterioration	vertical	> 50% void
D3	east	log	northeast corner, 3rd log, 23" from exposed end	E to W	1" internal void
D4	east	log	3rd log up, 35" from beaver end (exposed end), CCC addition		no void
D5	east	log	3rd log from bottom, north end, north of notch	E to W	1" internal void, internal decay, broken in notch
D6	east	log	3rd log from bottom, north end, south of notch	E to W	no void
D7	east	log	5th log from bottom, north end, north of notch	E to W	no void - broken in notch
D8	east	log	5th log from bottom, north end, south of notch	E to W	2" solid, 2.5" void
D9	east	log	5th log from bottom, north end, south of notch	E to W	2" solid, 2.5" void
D10	east	log	5th log from bottom, north end, 16" south of notch	E to W	2" solid, 2" void
D11	north	log	bottom log, north addition, east end, west side of splice	N to S	no void
D12	north	log	bottom log, "dog run", at deterioration	N to S	surface deterioration only
D13	west	log	2nd log from bottom, (interior E-W wall), west of exterior notch	S to N	no void
D14	south	log	sill log, just east of west notch	S to N	3.5" internal void
D15	south	log	sill log, east of D14, under west side of west window	S to N	no void

Beaver Creek Administration Complex, Building #10

Boaver Grook Administration Complex, Bananig #10								
Moisture Content Reading	Elevation	Location	Moisture Content	Drilling Location				
MC1	east	3rd log from bottom, north end, north of notch	20	D5				
MC2	east	3rd log from bottom, north end, south of notch	14	D6				
MC3	east	5th log from bottom, north end, north of notch	13	D7				
MC4	east	5th log from bottom, north end, south of notch	9	D8				
MC5	north	bottom log, north addition, east end, west side of splice	13	D11				
MC6	north	bottom log, "dog run", at deterioration	12	D12				
MC7	west	2nd log from bottom, interior wall (E-W), west of notch	11	D13				
MC8	south	sill log, just east of west notch	10	D14				
MC9	south	sill log, east of D14, under west side of west window	11	D15				

Appendix D - Maintenance Notes

Date ??? - Current use: Residential, oil furnace heat, plumbing: bath, (no kitchen?), 1956 remodel, shows current footprint, and 2 ½ inch fire protection 200 ft. away⁵¹.

1983- Siding replaced, ridge caps replaced, E/NE sill log replaced; dirt removed, gravel replaced, E. window sill / W.side foundation cover (basement access)./ Rechink as necessary /Stained⁵²

1989 sketch shows the east wall of the 1956 addition being moved west (to its current location), and the large west room is described as a "Rescue Cache". The west door is labeled "DBL Door" 53.

9/13/89 Work Request: "Remodel a room: level the floor (install radiant heat panels), windows w/insulating quilts, 4 new ceiling tiles, insulate exterior walls + delete floor board heaters". Work required: Carpentry + Electrical⁵⁴. The accompanying form describes conditions and repair options as follows:

Exterior sill log on north side is deteriorated, and needs replaced. Also describes the foundation as being of hand laid stone. Log replacement would require jacking up the room and taking the roof apart. The current sill log appears to have been replaced by inserting a partial log in place of the deteriorated portion on the north side of the northeast corner of the addition. Also, there has been some work done to the outside of the foundation as evidenced by the newer concrete.

Plan "B" calls for laying a false floor over the existing floor and to plane the floor to make up for the differences in height. This repair may be referring to the work which was done to the bath floor, and the floor of the room to the north of the bath, where an older floor can be seen under newer joists from the bath floor crawl space entry way.

A 1990 report stated that by 1968 building #10 was used as an administrative building, and then converted to a residential unit. This report also mentions that the building has been remodeled "at least five times," and has since been remodeled again⁵⁵.

A 1991 correspondence describes structural deficiencies which still need to be addressed, such as differential settling due to rotting sill logs, air passage

⁵¹ Individual Building Data, residence, (formerly Adm. Bldg.), form 10-768 (7/60).

⁵² Historic Structure Preservation Guide, 1984? (Old Admin Area General Files).

⁵³ Bill Barmore, sketch, <u>This wall moved here</u>. 1989.

⁵⁴ Work Request Form 10-214 and accompanying memo, #10 Beaver Creek, National Park Service, 9/13/89.

⁵⁵ Beaver Creek Old Historic Building, 2.

under floors and through the logs inadequate insulation, interior wiring and plumbing, ...also indicated the use as a Science and Resource Management Office.⁵⁶.

A note dated 9/10/92 describes a discussion which had taken place concerning putting a doorway in the west wall. This likely refers to the current opening through the old window of the west wall of the original NE addition where the window was before the darkroom was made⁵⁷.

6/18/2003, letter described re-roofing the building with the green Eco-Shakes which are currently on the roof⁵⁸

July 2003 letter described the reproofing of 6 buildings in the Beaver Creek residential area, at a cost of \$170,000. (The next paragraph describes the work completed by volunteers on Mormon Row at a material cost of \$5,000)⁵⁹.

A 4/1/2005 email described problems with the building and recommended treatments⁶⁰. Recommend similar treatments for pest control, such as surrounding the perimeter of the building with wire cloth to keep rodents out.

⁵⁶ Jack Stark, Superintendent, Grand Teton National Park, Memorandum <u>Needed</u> <u>Renovation, Science and Resource Management Office</u>, to Associate Regional Director, Operations, Rock Mountain Region,

⁵⁷Richard Cronenberger, Division of Natural Resources, Regional Historical Architect, fax transmittal of a handwritten note <u>Beaver Creek #10</u>, to Marshall Gingree, Grand Teton NP, 9/10/92.

⁵⁸Stephen P. Martin, Superintendent, correspondence #0102CLH050 to Mr. Richard Currit; State Historic Preservation Officer.

⁵⁹Pam Holtman, <u>Maintenance Backlog Involving Historic Buildings in Grand Teton</u> <u>National Park</u>, July 2003.

⁶⁰Charles Villalobos, <u>Historical buildings Beaver Cr HQ 2004-5.doc</u>, email attachment to Pam Holtman/GRTE/NPS@NPS, April 1, 2005.

Appendix E – Additional Existing Condition Photographs



Typical evidence of exterior water damage



Front entry with wear on bottom right corner, otherwise in good condition, especially decorative hardware



Typical wire netting used to block entry of rodents into the building



Entry step showing deterioration



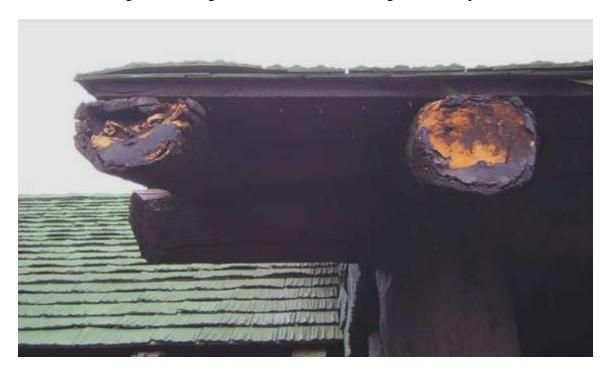
'Beaver tails' at junction of 1956 addition with CCC west addition showing foundation and tail decay; note metal patch blocking rodent entry



Southwest corner of 1956 addition showing deterioration likely due to weather



Chinking and daubing on north elevation showing need for replacement



South elevation, wood decay on porch roof rafter tails



North elevation, light-colored lathe around window is left from weather film.



North elevation, sill log of middle enclosure used as darkroom and storage showing possible adverse animal activity



Decay on 'beaver tail'



East elevation, decayed purlin on CCC addition



North elevation, splice on earliest addition at foundation level, note covered vent on bottom right



Interior room #10, electrical panel and other utilities



Junction of north wall of hipped roof and south wall of earliest addition



East elevation of earliest addition, showing scarring suggesting position of earlier window



North wall of room #4, rake light showing perimeter of previous doorway to exterior wood shed (now bathroom)



Basement, basement stairs, and interior walls-all in good condition



West interior basement access/egress, concrete sill showing wear; note sheet insulation at top of photo



North wall of 1956 addition, windows and walls in overall good condition



Ceiling of 1956 addition, showing major crack in rafter



East wall of the earliest addition (room #13), windows in good condition



West wall of earliest addition (room #13) showing attempt to construct doorway to darkroom/storage area



East elevation, CCC addition, windows, logs, chinking and daubing all in good condition



Southeast corner



Northwest corner